

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

FILED

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U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

vs.

ERIC ROBERT RUDOLPH,

Defendant.

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Case No. CR-00-S-422-S

283

ENTERED

JUL 28 2003

ORDER FOR WEBPAGE PUBLICATION
OF FILED DOCUMENTS

The policies of the Judicial Conference of the United States generally discourage making documents filed in criminal cases widely available over the internet and the Worldwide Web because of the unique privacy concerns applicable to such matters. Nevertheless, that policy recognizes an exception allowing webpage publication of documents in proceedings in which the demands for copies of filed documents create an extraordinary burden on the Clerk, the parties have consented to making copies of such documents available on a website, and the court finds that webpage publication is necessary to relieve the Clerk of the burden of the requests for copies.

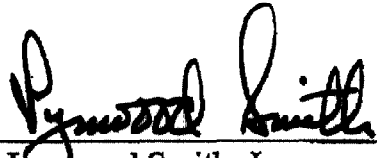
Proceedings in this case have been subject to a considerable amount of media attention, however. Media and general-public requests for copies of documents publicly available in the court file have created an extraordinary burden that is difficult for the Clerk's Office to meet, and it is anticipated that such demands will increase in the future. Further, the parties have consented in writing to making filed documents available as a link on the court's webpage.

Accordingly, the court finds that making publicly-filed documents in digital format on the court's webpage available for viewing and copying is necessary to relieve the Clerk of the extraordinary burden created by attention focused on this case, and that doing so will neither infringe upon, nor prejudice, the parties' right to a fair and impartial trial. The court further finds that making such documents available through the court's webpage is the fairest and most efficient way of meeting the demand for copies of papers filed in this matter.

It is, therefore, ORDERED that the Clerk make such arrangements as are necessary to establish a digital link on the court's webpage through which an electronic version of all documents filed in the public court file in this case only may be accessed by the media and general public for viewing and downloading. Documents filed under seal shall not be accessible through the webpage.

The Clerk is DIRECTED to forward a copy of the foregoing to all counsel of record.

DONE this the 28th day of July, 2003.



C. Lynwood Smith, Jr.
United States District Judge